Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 32, wherein said protected portion of the microchip includes a non-volatile memory.

3. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the internal hardware firewall is configured using firmware.

4. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip includes a volatile memory.

5. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the active configuration is provided by the use of field-programmable gate arrays (FPGAs).

6. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the active configuration is provided by the use of a micro electromechanical system (MEMS).

7. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the active configuration is used to configure said firewall.

8. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the master control unit is configured to control access to the unprotected portion of the microchip by the network including the Internet for said operation when the computer is connected to the network including the Internet.

9. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the personal computer includes one or more of a telephone, a radio, a pager, a handheld personal digital assistant, a wearable computer, a digital signal processor, an entertainment device, a game, a videocam, an optical data recording device, a camera, a household electronic device, a business electronic device, and an automobile.

10. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the network connection includes a direct wireless connection to the another computer.

11. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, said unprotected portion of the microchip includes non-volatile memory.

12. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a network communications component.

13. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said protected portion of the microchip further includes a flash memory component.

14. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 13, wherein the flash memory component includes a BIOS (basic input/output system) of the personal computer.

15. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a sound component of the personal computer.

16. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a graphics component of the personal computer.

17. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a video processing component of the personal computer.

18. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes an analog component of the personal computer.

19. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip further includes a modem component of the personal computer.

20. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 7, wherein the active configuration of the firewall is provided by the use of field-programmable gate arrays (FPGAs).

21. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein said unprotected portion of the microchip includes at least four or eight or 16 or 64 or 128 or 256 or 512 or 1024

of said processing units of the microprocessor.

22. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 32, wherein the protected portion of the microchip is temporarily inaccessible from the network when the computer is connected to the network.

23. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 32, wherein the protected portion of the microchip is permanently inaccessible from the network when the computer is connected to the network.

24. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the internal hardware firewall has default settings that protect the personal computer from access from the Internet, but with the capability for a user of the personal computer to override the default settings.

25. (Previously presented) The personal computer of claim 2, wherein the configuration of the internal hardware firewall is controlled by a network administrator in a local network.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) The computer of claim 33, wherein said protected portion of the microchip includes a non-volatile memory.

28. (Previously presented) The computer of claim 33, wherein the configuration of the internal hardware firewall is controlled by a network administrator in a local network.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously presented) The microchip of claim 34, wherein said protected portion of the microchip includes a non-volatile memory.

31. (Previously presented) The microchip of claim 34, wherein the configuration of the internal hardware firewall is controlled by a network administrator in a local network.

32. (Currently amended) A personal computer configured for a connection to a network of computers including the Internet, comprising:

a microchip including

a microprocessor, the microprocessor including

a master control unit that is configured using hardware and firmware, and

at least two processing units;

the master control unit of the microprocessor being further configured to allow a user of the personal computer to control the processing units of the microprocessor;

an internal hardware firewall ~~creating~~ that is located between a protected portion of the microchip and an unprotected portion of the microchip;

said protected portion of the microchip including

at least said master control unit of the microprocessor and

at least one of the processing units of the microprocessor,

said unprotected portion of the microchip including one or more of the processing units of the microprocessor, said one or more unprotected processing units being separate from and located outside of said internal hardware firewall;

said hardware firewall denying access to said protected portion of the microchip by a network including the Internet when the personal computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

said hardware firewall permitting access by another computer in the network including the Internet to said one or more of the processing units included in the unprotected portion of the microchip for an operation with said another computer in the network including the Internet when the personal computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

an active configuration of a circuit integrated into the microchip.

33. (Currently amended) A computer configured for a connection to a network of computers including the Internet, comprising:

a master controlling device that is configured using hardware and firmware,

at least two microprocessors; and

the master controlling device of the computer being further configured to allow a user of the ~~personal~~ computer to control the microprocessors;

an internal hardware firewall ~~creating~~ that is located between a protected portion of the computer and an unprotected portion of the computer;

said protected portion of the computer including

at least said master controlling device and

at least one of the microprocessors,

said unprotected portion of the computer including one or more of the microprocessors, said one or more unprotected microprocessors being separate from and located outside of said internal hardware firewall;

said hardware firewall denying access to said protected portion of the computer by a network including the Internet when the computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

said hardware firewall permitting access by another computer in the network including the Internet to said one or more of the microprocessors included in the unprotected portion of the computer for an operation with said another computer in the network including the Internet when the ~~personal~~ computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

an active configuration of motherboard hardware.

34. (Currently amended) A microchip configured for a connection to a network of computers including the Internet, comprising:

a microprocessor, the microprocessor including

a master control unit that is configured using hardware and firmware, and

at least two processing units;

the master control unit of the microprocessor being further configured to allow a user of the ~~personal~~ computer to control the processing units of the microprocessor;

an internal hardware firewall ~~creating~~ that is located between a protected portion of the microchip and an unprotected portion of the microchip;

said protected portion of the microchip including

at least said master control unit of the microprocessor and

at least one of the processing units of the microprocessor,

said unprotected portion of the microchip including one or more of the processing units of the microprocessor, said one or more unprotected processing units being separate from and located outside of said internal hardware firewall;

said hardware firewall denying access to said protected portion of the microchip by a network including the Internet when the ~~personal~~ computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

said hardware firewall permitting access by another computer in the network including the Internet to said one or more of the processing units included in the unprotected portion of the microchip for an operation with said another computer in the network including the Internet when the ~~personal~~ computer is connected to the network including the Internet; and

an active configuration of a circuit integrated into the microchip.